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Descriptions of Ten New African Birds of the
Genera *Pogonocichla*, *Cossypha*, *Bradypterus*,
Sylvietta, *Melaniparus*, and *Zosterops*

BY

EDGAR A. MEARNS

Associate in Zoology, U. S. National Museum



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DESCRIPTIONS OF TEN NEW AFRICAN BIRDS OF
THE GENERA POGONOCICHLA, COSSYPHA, BRA-
DYPTERUS, SYLVIETTA, MELANIPARUS AND
ZOSTEROPS.

By EDGAR A. MEARNS

ASSOCIATE IN ZOOLOGY, UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

Four of the forms herein described are from the collection made by the Childs Frick African Expedition, 1911-1912; three are from the collection made by the Paul J. Rainey Expedition, 1911-1912; one is from the Smithsonian African Expedition 1909-1910 collection, made under the direction of Col. Theodore Roosevelt; and two were collected by Dr. W. L. Abbott in 1888.

The names of special tints and shades of colors used in this paper conform to Robert Ridgway's "Color Standards and Color Nomenclature," issued March 10, 1913. All measurements are in millimeters.

POGONOCICHLA CUCULLATA HELLERI, new subspecies

Mount Mbololo Bush-Robin

Type-specimen.—Adult male, Cat. No. 217720, U. S. Nat. Mus.; collected on Mount Mbololo summit, altitude 4,400 feet, British East Africa, November 8, 1911, by Edmund Heller. (Original number, 416.)

Characters.—Most closely related to *Pogonocichla cucullata cucullata* (Blyth) and *P. c. keniensis* Mearns. From the former it differs in the paler blue of the head and wings, and in the clearer yellow of the under parts; from the latter in the darker blue of the head and wings; from these and all other known forms it differs in the pattern of the tail-feathers, which, as usual, have the central pair of rectrices entirely brownish black, the remaining feathers being yellow, narrowly tipped with black, except the outer feather, on which the black occupies the terminal two-thirds of the outer web; tail with terminal black band only seven millimeters in breadth.

Description of type and only specimen (adult male).—Head with a small white brow-spot on each side, otherwise entirely green-blue slate, darkest on the lores and at base of maxilla; mantle dark citrine; rump and upper tail-coverts apricot yellow; wing-coverts and pri-

maries brownish black, with outer webs broadly bordered with the same, or slightly paler, color as the head; outer webs of secondaries washed with the same color as the mantle; tail light cadmium, squarely tipped with black, which runs down the outer web of the terminal two-thirds of the outer feather, and with the central pair of rectrices entirely brownish black; upper throat with a round black spot enclosing a white one five millimeters in diameter; remaining under parts light cadmium; axillars and lining of wings lemon chrome; inner webs of quills edged with grayish white. In the dry skin the bill is entirely black, the feet and claws grayish brown.

Measurements of type (adult male).—Length of skin, 150; wing, 80; tail, 67; culmen (chord), 13.5; tarsus, 25.

COSSYPHA NATALENSIS GARGUENSIS, new subspecies

Mount Gargues Robin-Chat

Type-specimen.—Adult female, Cat. No. 217681, U. S. Nat. Mus.; collected on Mount Gargues (South Creek, altitude 3,600 feet), in north-central British East Africa, September 4, 1911, by Edmund Heller. (Original number, 297.)

Characters.—This is an extremely pale form from an isolated range of mountains surrounded by desert plains.

Description of type and only specimen (adult female).—Head and entire under parts ochraceous-orange; feathers of crown edged at base with green-blue slate, producing wavy lines; mantle green-blue slate, mixed with ochraceous-orange in middle of upper back, contracted to a point posteriorly; wings grayish black, all the feathers bordered by green-blue slate; lower rump cadmium yellow; upper tail-coverts ochraceous-orange; tail raw sienna, with middle pair of rectrices, entire outer webs of external rectrices, and sub-apical markings on inner webs of intermediate rectrices brownish black; axillars and under wing-coverts ochraceous-orange. In the dry specimen the bill is brownish black; feet and claws grayish brown.

Measurements of type (adult female).—Length of skin, 155; wing, 86; tail, 71; culmen (chord), 15; tarsus, 28.

COSSYPHA NATALENSIS INTENSA, new subspecies

Intensely-colored Robin-Chat

Type-specimen.—Adult male; Cat. No. 118105, U. S. Nat. Mus.; collected by Dr. W. L. Abbott, at Taveta, British East Africa, April 26, 1888.

Characters.—This is a saturated coast form, characterized by intensity of coloration.

Description of adult male and female from Taveta and Mombasa.—Head sudan brown, with feathers of crown edged at base with blackish slate; entire under parts mars yellow; mantle dark green-blue slate, mixed with sudan brown, cleft by a wedge-shaped area of mixed blackish slate and sudan brown; wings slaty black, the feathers bordered by dark green-blue slate; rump and upper tail-coverts mars yellow; tail mars yellow, the middle rectrices, outer web of outer rectrices, and very narrow edging to next to the middle rectrices slaty black; axillars and under wing-coverts mars yellow. In the dry specimen the bill is black; feet and claws brown.

Measurements of type (adult male).—Length of skin, 170; wing, 90; tail, 76; culmen (chord), 16; tarsus, 27.5.

Average measurements of two adult males from Mombasa, British East Africa (Carnegie Museum).—Length of skin, 172.5; wing, 96.5; tail, 82; culmen (chord), 16.5; tarsus, 28.25.

Geographical range.—Coast region of British East Africa (Taveta and Mombasa).

Remarks.—The typical form *Cossypha natalensis natalensis* from Port Natal, South Africa, is slightly larger than the subspecies *garaguensis* and *intensa*.

BRADYPTERUS BABÆCULUS FRATERCULUS, new subspecies

Escarpment Reed-Warbler

Type-specimen.—Adult male, Cat. No. 244935, U. S. Nat. Mus.; collected at Escarpment, altitude 7,390 feet, on the Uganda Railway, British East Africa, September 10, 1912, by Edgar A. Mearns. (Original number, 24190.)

Characters.—Most closely resembling *Bradypterus babæculus babæculus* (Vieillot), but darker brown above and less spotted below.

Description of type (adult male).—Entire upper parts natal brown; a narrow superciliary stripe of grayish white; cheeks and ear-coverts mouse gray; chest, sides, flanks, and thighs yellowish hair brown; throat and abdomen dirty white; feathers of throat and upper chest with obsolete dark spots; iris brown; bill brownish black, paler at base of mandible; feet and claws brown.

Description of adult female.—Similar to the adult male, but more drabish above, and paler on the abdomen (almost white), with the throat more spotted, and with the pectoral band narrower and less uniformly brown.

Measurements of type (adult male).—Length of skin, 150; wing, 62; tail, 68; culmen (chord), 13; tarsus, 25.

Average measurements of two adult females (from Mount Kenia at 8,500 feet).—Length of skin, 150; wing, 62.5; tail, 62; culmen (chord), 12; tarsus, 24.

SYLVIETTA WHYTII ABAYENSIS, new subspecies

Abyssinian Crombec

Type-specimen.—Adult male, Cat. No. 245199, U. S. Nat. Mus.; collected on the Gato River, near Gardulla, at the south end of the Abaya lakes (altitude 4,000 feet) in southern Abyssinia, April 6, 1912, by Edgar A. Mearns. (Original number, 21057.)

Characters.—Most closely related to *Sylvietta whytii jacksoni* and *S. w. loringi*, from northern and southern British East Africa, respectively. These three subspecies are closely similar in size, *loringi* having slightly larger feet and a smaller bill than the others. *S. w. jacksoni* has the darkest coloration throughout, and *S. w. abayensis* the palest. *S. w. loringi* has the upper parts purer, less olivaceous, gray than *S. w. abayensis*, while *S. w. jacksoni* has the upper parts more plumbeous.

Sylvietta whytii abayensis has the iris yellowish brown; bill olivaceous brown above, pale reddish brown below; feet and claws light brown.

Measurements of type (adult male).—Length of skin, 85; wing, 61.5; tail, 25; culmen (chord), 12; tarsus, 18.

The salient difference in coloration of three closely-related forms of *Sylvietta* may be expressed as follows:

<i>Sylvietta whytii loringi</i>	<i>Sylvietta whytii jacksoni</i>	<i>Sylvietta whytii abayensis</i>
Upper parts neutral gray. Under parts nearly uniform ashy-olivaceous.	Upper parts dark gull gray. Under parts nearly uniform fawn color.	Upper parts light grayish olive. Under parts vinaceous-buff, fading to whitish on abdomen and crissum.

COMPARATIVE MEASUREMENTS OF THREE SUBSPECIES OF
SYLVIETTA WHYTII SHELLEY

Name	Sex	Number of specimens	Wing	Tail	Culmen (chord)	Tarsus
<i>Sylvietta whytii loringi</i>	♂	1	61.0	25.0	11.7	19.6
<i>Sylvietta whytii loringi</i>	♀	2	56.5	25.5	11.5	19.0
<i>Sylvietta whytii jacksoni</i>	♂	4	60.5	28.3	12.3	18.8
<i>Sylvietta whytii jacksoni</i>	♀	4	57.3	24.4	11.9	17.8
<i>Sylvietta whytii abayensis</i>	♂	3	60.8	24.7	12.0	17.7
<i>Sylvietta whytii abayensis</i>	♀	6	57.4	23.3	11.9	17.3

SYLVIETTA LEUCOPHRYS KENIENSIS, new subspecies

Kenia White-eyebrowed Crombec

Type-specimen.—Adult male, Cat. No. 215605, U. S. Nat. Mus.; collected at 8,500 feet altitude on Mount Kenia, British East Africa, October 13, 1909, by Edgar A. Mearns. (Original number, 17130.)

Characters.—Differs from *Sylvietta leucophrys leucophrys* from Mount Elgon in being paler, more olivaceous, and with the supra-orbital area reduced to a narrow whitish stripe, obsolete behind the orbit.

Measurements of type (adult male).—Length of skin, 80; wing, 58; tail, 25; culmen (chord), 10; tarsus, 22.5.

SYLVIETTA BRACHYURA TAVETENSIS, new subspecies

Taveta Crombec

Type-specimen.—Adult female, Cat. No. 118155, U. S. Nat. Mus.; collected on the plains of Taveta, in southeastern British East Africa, August 13, 1888, by Dr. W. L. Abbott.

Characters.—Most closely related to *Sylvietta brachyura leucopsis* (Reichenow), but smaller, with the upper parts browner, less grayish, the whitish of the abdomen more contracted and contrasting less with the rufescent sides and chest, with the chest more intensely tawny-olive, and with the white confined to the chin and not extending to the upper throat.

Measurements of type (adult female).—Length of skin, 75; wing, 46; tail, 20; culmen (chord), 9; tarsus, 17.

Measurements of adult female of Sylvietta brachyura leucopsis (from Lakiundu River, near the type locality).—Length of skin, 75; wing, 47; tail, 20; culmen (chord), 10; tarsus, 17.

Remarks.—In the subspecies *leucopsis*, from Lakiundu and the northern Guaso Nyiro rivers north to Dire Daoua, Abyssinia, the only variation noticeable is a slight increase in size to the northward.

MELANIPARUS AFER FRICKI, new subspecies

Frick's Titmouse

Type-specimen.—Adult male, Cat. No. 245844, U. S. Nat. Mus.; collected at Dire Daoua, Abyssinia, December 9, 1911, by Edgar A. Mearns. (Original number, 19581.)

Characters.—Most closely related to *Melaniparus afer baraka* (Jackson), from the region around Lake Baringo, British East Africa, from which it differs in having a larger black spot on the

middle of the upper chest, deep gull gray sides and flanks, with a broad buffy-white collar separating the dark colors of the sides and chest from the black of the throat, and a darker general coloration. From *M. afer thruppi* (Shelley), from northern and central Somaliland, it may be readily distinguished by the absence of a decided tinge of buff to the cheeks, ear coverts, and under parts.

Description of adult male and female.—Head glossy black, with a white patch below the eye beginning as a narrow line from the angle of the mouth to below the eye, expanding to occupy the upper cheek and all of the ear-coverts, this rounded white spot surrounded by the black of the neck; mantle, rump, and least wing-coverts smoky slate-gray; a nuchal spot of dirty white, ten millimeters in diameter, between the black crown and gray mantle; upper tail-coverts black; wings black, or brownish black, the median and greater coverts and all of the quills edged with grayish white; edge of wing white with a black spot at base of feathers; rectrices black, the outer ones edged and tipped with white; the black of the lower throat, which is pointed below, separated from the deep gull gray of the sides by a continuous collar of dirty white, obscurely continued around the sides of the neck to unite with the whitish nuchal patch; a black spot occupies the middle of the upper chest below the whitish collar; center of abdomen washed with rusty white; thighs and crissum soiled grayish white; axillars, under wing-coverts, and inner edge of quills soiled grayish white. In dry specimens the bill, feet, and claws are blackish.

Measurements of type (adult male).—Length of skin, 108; wing, 65; tail, 46.5; culmen (chord), 10.5; tarsus, 17.5.

Measurements of adult female topotype.—Length of skin, 111; wing, 64; tail, 48.5; culmen (chord), 10.5; tarsus, 17.5.

ZOSTEROPS SENEGALENSIS FRICKI, new subspecies

Frick's White-eye

Type-specimen.—Adult male, Cat. No. 245874, U. S. Nat. Mus.; collected on Boulder Hill, Thika River, British East Africa, August 28, 1912, by Edgar A. Mearns. (Original number, 23936.)

Characters.—Most closely related to *Zosterops senegalensis stuhlmanni* (Reichenow), from which it differs in being considerably smaller, with less yellow on the forehead. The back is greener and the under parts yellower than in *Z. s. smithi* of southern Abyssinia; and it may be easily separated from *Z. s. flavilateralis*, from the coast region at Mombasa, by its more yellow coloration throughout.

Description of adult male and female.—Forehead, throat, and middle of under parts, including under tail-coverts, citron yellow; sides yellowish citrine; top and sides of head, upper side of neck, mantle, and outer edges of wing-coverts and quills serpentine green, becoming yellowish citrine on rump and upper tail-coverts; wing- and tail-feathers mouse gray; axillars, lining of wings, and inner edge of quills yellowish white; edge of wing pale yellow, a narrow eye-ring pure white.

Measurements of type (adult male).—Length of skin, 92; wing, 54; tail, 39; culmen (chord), 10; tarsus, 15.

Average measurements of four adult males.—Wing, 53.25; tail, 36.5; culmen (chord), 10; tarsus, 15.25.

Average measurements of two adult females.—Wing, 50.75; tail, 34.5; culmen (chord), 10; tarsus, 14.25.

Geographical range.—Upper Thika and Tana rivers, north to Endoto Mountain, British East Africa.

ZOSTEROPS VIRENS GARGUENSIS, new subspecies

Mount Gargues White-eye

Type-specimen.—Adult male, Cat. No. 217736, U. S. Nat. Mus.; collected on the summit of Mount Gargues (altitude 7,100 feet), north of the Northern Guaso Nyiro River, in British East Africa, August 25, 1911, by Edmund Heller. (Original number, 225.)

Characters.—Most closely related to *Zosterops virens jacksoni* (Neumann) from Mau, British East Africa, and *Z. v. kaffensis*, from Kaffa, southern Abyssinia, having an equally narrow white eye-ring, but a darker, more grayish, coloration. From the form *garguensis*, *Z. v. kikuyuensis* (Sharpe) from Kikuyu and Mount Kenia, and *Z. v. euryricota* (Fischer and Reichenow) from Mount Kilimanjaro, may be instantly distinguished by the very broad white eye-ring as well as by a quite different coloration.

Description of adult male and female.—Upper parts light yellowish olive, not perceptibly yellower on the crown or upper tail-coverts, but slightly yellowish on ear-coverts and sides of face; the very narrow eye-ring is white; lores black; throat and a narrow band bordering upper bill olive-yellow; quills and upper wing-coverts grayish brown, edged with the same color as the back; chest, sides, flanks, and outer side of thighs pale olive-green; abdomen, under tail-coverts, inner aspect of thighs, and edge of wing olive-yellow; axillars primrose yellow; under wing-coverts yellowish white; under

surface of quills bordered with grayish white. In the dry specimen the bill is black and the feet grayish olive.

Measurements of type (adult male).—Length of skin, 110; wing, 58; tail, 48; culmen (chord), 12; tarsus, 17.

Average measurements of two adult male topotypes.—Wing, 59; tail, 47; culmen (chord), 12; tarsus, 17.5.

Average measurements of two adult female topotypes.—Wing, 58.5; tail, 46; culmen (chord), 11.6; tarsus, 17.3.

Material.—Four specimens from Mount Guargues (also written Garguez on some maps).